



# ARNOLD & PORTER

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January 6, 2004

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**  
JAN 08 2004  
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Re: U.S. Application No. 09/692,257  
Filed: October 19, 2000  
Title: Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules  
Associated with Plants  
Applicants: Philip W. MILLER *et al.*  
Atty. Docket: 16517.297/38-21(15771)B

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO):

1. an Amendment and Reply to the Office Action Mailed October 6, 2003;
2. an Appointment of Associate Attorneys; and
3. a return postcard.

Please stamp the attached postcard with the filing date of these documents and return it to our courier.

In the event that extensions of time beyond those petitioned for herewith are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned. Applicants do not believe any fees are due in conjunction with this filing. However, if any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 are required in the present application, including any fees for extensions of time, then the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Arnold & Porter Deposit Account No. 50-2387 referencing matter number 16517.297. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures